

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) An interior window covering frame assembly comprising:

an elongate core substrate configured to frame at least a portion of ~~an interior a~~ window opening, wherein said substrate comprises a thickness of less than 5/16 inch, said substrate having a lateral plate and; at least one a flange attached transverse to said lateral platesubstrate, wherein said lateral plate is configured to be coupled in a parallel fashion to an adjacent wall, and wherein said flange is configured to extend out from said wall; and

a window covering coupled to ~~either said substrate or said at least one flange, and~~ wherein said ~~at least one flange~~ is configured to retain at least a portion of said window covering.

2. (Currently amended) The interior window covering frame assembly of claim 1, wherein said substrate comprises at least one material having an elastic modulus greater than 2.3E.

3. (Currently amended) The interior window covering frame assembly of claim 1, wherein said substrate is formed of material selected from the group consisting of fiberglass, metal, graphite and reinforced plastic.

4. (Currently amended) The interior window covering frame assembly of claim 1, wherein said flange is configured to retain a hinge attached to said window covering.

5. (Currently amended) The interior window covering frame assembly of claim 1, further comprising a decorative covering coupled to ~~at least one of said substrate and said at least one flange.~~

6. (Currently amended) The interior window covering frame assembly of claim 5, wherein said decorative covering comprises a material selected from the group consisting of wood, plastic, wood composite, cloth and paint.

7. (Currently amended) The interior window covering frame assembly of claim 1, wherein said window covering comprises a shutter.

8. (Currently amended) An interior window covering frame assembly comprising:
an elongate core substrate having a thickness less than 5/16 inch and comprising
at least one material having an elastic modulus greater than 2.3E, said substrate having a
lateral plate; at least one and a flange transverse to said lateral plate, wherein said lateral
plate is configured to be coupled in a parallel fashion to an adjacent wall, and wherein
said flange is configured to extend out from said wall affixed to a portion of said
substrate; and
a connecting channel coupled to said lateral plate and to said flange;
a window covering coupled to ~~either said substrate or said at least one flange;~~ and
a decorative covering applied to at least a portion of said substrate, wherein said
decorative covering conceals said portion of said core substrate.

9. (Currently amended) The interior window covering frame assembly of claim 8,
wherein a cross-sectional shape of said substrate ~~in combination with said at least one flange~~
corresponds to a shape selected from the group consisting of an L, a T and a Z.

10. (Currently amended) The interior window covering frame assembly of claim 8,
wherein said substrate is formed of material selected from the group consisting of fiberglass,
metal, graphite and reinforced plastic.

11. (Currently amended) The interior window covering frame assembly of claim 8,
wherein said decorative covering comprises a material selected from the group consisting of
wood, plastic, wood composite, cloth and paint.

12. (Currently amended) The interior window covering frame assembly of claim 8, wherein said window covering comprises a shutter.

13. (Currently amended) An interior window covering frame system comprising:

- a window having an associated window jamb and adjacent wall;
- a frame substrate configured to frame at least a portion of an opening of said window, said substrate comprising a lateral plate and a flange transverse to said lateral plate, wherein said lateral plate is configured to be coupled in a parallel fashion to said adjacent wall, and wherein said flange is configured to extend out from said wall, said substrate being configured to be mounted to at least one of said window jamb and said adjacent wall, said frame substrate having a thickness of less than 5/16 inch and comprising at least one material having an elastic modulus greater than 2.3E;
- at least one ~~flange~~-connecting channel coupled to said frame substrate;
- a window covering coupled to ~~either said frame substrate or said at least one flange~~; and
- a decorative covering applied to said frame substrate to substantially conceal at least a portion of said frame substrate.

14. (Currently amended) The interior window covering frame system of claim 13, wherein a cross-sectional shape of said frame substrate ~~in combination with said at least one flange~~ corresponds to a shape selected from the group consisting of an L, a T and a Z.

15. (Currently amended) The interior window covering frame system of claim 13, wherein said frame substrate comprises a material selected from the group consisting of fiberglass, metal, graphite and reinforced plastic.

16. (Currently amended) The interior window covering frame system of claim 13, wherein said decorative covering comprises a material selected from the group consisting of wood, plastic, wood composite, cloth and paint.

17. (Currently amended) The interior window covering frame system of claim 13, wherein said window covering comprises a shutter.

18. (Currently amended) A method for anchoring an interior window covering adjacent an interior window having a window jamb and an adjacent wall, said method comprising:

providing a frame substrate that comprises a thickness of less than 5/16 inch and has ~~having~~, by volume, an elastic modulus greater than wood, and wherein said substrate further comprises a lateral plate and a flange transverse to said lateral plate;

coupling to said frame substrate to one of a window jamb and an adjacent wall surface, wherein said lateral plate is coupled in a parallel fashion to said adjacent wall, and wherein said ~~at least one~~ flange is positioned to extend out from said adjacent wall and has ~~, said at least one flange having~~ a depth sufficient to accommodate a hinge attached to said interior window covering;

using an a connecting channel to interconnect a first portion of said frame substrate with a second portion of said frame substrate~~mounting said frame substrate to at least one of said window jamb and said adjacent wall;~~ and

attaching said hinge of said interior window covering to said flange.